

Media alert 16 January 2020

Please cascade to all media staff

Mindframe media alert update: death of Wilson Gavin following family statement

Mindframe wishes to endorse the statement from the family of Wilson Gavin and their call for compassion for all impacted communities at this time. The *Mindframe* team also pass on condolences to Gavin's family and friends.

Now that the family have confirmed that Wilson took his own life, *Mindframe* wishes to remind media to follow responsible reporting. It is important while conversations continue on line that media stories provide appropriate help-seeking pathways (see list below). Also bear in mind that this is an ongoing police matter for investigation and coronial proceedings.

The traumatic nature of events such as this can have a profound impact on whole communities and may last for a period of time. *Mindframe* encourages the acknowledgement and continued support of grief and loss for the family, friends, LGBTI community and the broader Australian community.

As more details emerge about the incident, please refer to the Mindframe guidelines.

Avoid: Reporting explicit detail about method and means.

Use: If it is essential to include method, discuss in general terms:

E.g. 'Police investigations continue'

Avoid: Speculation around the circumstances leading up to the incident

Note: this is for police investigation only and possible coronal findings

Avoid: Using detailed and dramatic photographs or videos of the scene

NOTE: Graphic images or footage depicting method or location can lead to imitation by people who are

vulnerable to self-harm and suicide.







Support services



Media self-care

To support media professionals *Mindframe*, in consultation with the <u>DART Centre Asia Pacific</u>, has developed <u>self-care resources</u> for journalists media professionals reporting on high profile incidents.

🥎 Mindframe

Key national resources

Head to Health: mental health portal: www.headtohealth.gov.au **Life in Mind:** suicide prevention portal: www.lifeinmindaustralia.com.au

The Mindframe project team

🖶 EVERYMIND

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mindframe.org.au